

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 16-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 3-6, 9 and 13-15 as follows:

1. (Original) A joined body of a first member made of a metal and a second member made of a ceramic or a cermet,

wherein said joined body comprises a joining portion interposed between said first member and said second member for joining said first and second members,

said joining portion comprising main phase contacting said first member and an intermediate ceramic composition layer contacting said second member and existing between said second member and said main phase, and

said main phase comprising a porous bone structure with open pores and made of a sintered product of powder of a metal, and said main phase further comprising ceramic composition layer impregnated into said open pores in said porous bone structure

each of said intermediate ceramic composition layer and said impregnated ceramic composition layer has a crystallinity of more than 50%.

2. (Original) The joined body of claim 1, wherein said intermediate ceramic composition layer and said impregnated ceramic composition layer contain a main component of said ceramic or said cermet constituting said second member.

3. (Currently Amended) The joined body of ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein said metal constituting said porous bone structure contains a main component of said metal constituting said first member.

4. (Currently Amended) The joined body of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein said intermediate ceramic composition layer and said impregnated ceramic composition layer are made of ceramic materials comprising the same ingredient system.

5. (Currently Amended) The joined body of ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein said porous bone structure has a porosity of open pores of not lower than 30% and not higher than 80%.

6. (Currently Amended) The joined body of ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein each of said intermediate ceramic layer and said impregnated ceramic phase has a crystallinity of not lower than 60%.

7. (Original) The joined body of claim 6, wherein each of said intermediate ceramic layer and said impregnated ceramic phase has a crystallinity of not lower than 70%.

8. (Original) The joined body of claim 7, wherein each of said intermediate ceramic layer and said impregnated ceramic phase has a crystallinity of not lower than 80%.

9. (Currently Amended) The joined body of ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein each of a ceramic constituting said intermediate ceramic composition layer and a ceramic constituting said impregnated ceramic composition layer comprises one or more oxide selected from the group consisting of Al_2O_3 , Sc_2O_3 , Y_2O_3 , La_2O_3 , Gd_2O_3 , Dy_2O_3 , Ho_2O_3 , Tm_2O_3 , SiO_2 , MoO_2 and MoO_3 .

10. (Original) The joined body of claim 9, wherein each of a ceramic constituting said intermediate ceramic composition layer and a ceramic constituting said impregnated ceramic composition layer comprises three or more oxides selected from the group consisting of Al_2O_3 , Sc_2O_3 , Y_2O_3 , La_2O_3 , Gd_2O_3 , Dy_2O_3 , Ho_2O_3 , Tm_2O_3 , SiO_2 , MoO_2 and MoO_3 .

11. (Original) The joined body of claim 10, wherein each ceramic has a content of SiO_2 of not higher than 15 weight percent.

12. (Original) The joined body of claim 11, wherein each ceramic has a content of SiO_2 of not lower than 5ppm.

13. (Currently Amended) The joined body of ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, wherein said first member comprises one or more metal selected from the group consisting of molybdenum, tungsten, rhenium, niobium, tantalum and the alloys thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) The joined body of ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, wherein said second member comprises a ceramic selected from the group consisting of alumina, magnesia, yttria, lanthania and zirconia, or a cermet containing said ceramic.

15. (Currently Amended) The joined body of ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ claim 1, wherein each of a material constituting said intermediate ceramic composition layer and a ceramic constituting said impregnated ceramic composition layer has a melting point not more than a temperature subtracted 200°C from a melting point of a ceramic or a cermet constituting said second member.

Claims 16-20 (Canceled).